



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

United States Patent and Trademark Office

Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/660,945	09/12/2003	Erik P. Staats	APPL-P2829COA	6999
65201 7590 11/24/2008 GAZDZINSKI & ASSOCIATES, P.C. 11440 WEST BERNARDO COURT SUITE 375 SAN DIEGO, CA 92127				
EXAMINER				
PAULA, CESAR B				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2178				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
11/24/2008		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/660,945

Applicant(s)

STAATS, ERIK P.

Examiner

CESAR B. PAULA

Art Unit

2178

Period for Reply -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 August 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5, 14-17, 26-36, 41-44 and 46-52 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 46-51 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5, 14-17, 26-36, 41-44 and 52 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to the amendment filed on 8/15/2008.

This action is made Final.

2. In the amendment, claims 37-40, and 45 have been canceled. Claim 52 has been added. Claims 1-5, and 14-17, and 26-36, 41-44, 46-52 are pending in the case. Claims 1, 26, 31, 37, 41, 45-46, 48, 50 and 52 are independent claims.

3. The rejections of claims 31-35 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Humpleman et al (Pat.# 6182094 B1, 1/30/2001, filed on 6/24/1998), have been withdrawn as necessitated by the amendment.

4. The rejection of claim 36 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Humpleman, in view of Looney et al, hereinafter Looney (Pat.# 6,232,539 B1, 5/15/2001, continuation filed on 6/17/1998), has been withdrawn as necessitated by the amendment.

Priority

5. This application is a continuation of co-pending United States Patent Application Serial Number 09/429,233, now pat. 6691096, filed October 28, 1999.

Drawings

6. The drawings filed on 9/12/2003 have been accepted by the Examiner.

Double Patenting

7. The nonstatutory double patenting rejection has been withdrawn as necessitated by the amendment.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

8. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claims 1-5, and 14-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Claim 1 has been amended to recite ‘*at least one of said plurality of container comprises information for independent access to each container in said plurality of containers*’ lines 4-6. The Examiner has failed to find a disclosure in the specification that describes how to include information in a least one container, for accessing each container in a plurality of containers, in an independent manner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

9. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

10. Claims 1-5, 11-16, 26-27, 29-30, and 41-44 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Humpleman et al (Pat.# 6182094 B1, 1/30/2001, filed on 6/24/1998).

Regarding independent claim 1, Humpleman discloses an auto-tree builder using a device list file to create a device HTML file with several windows that contain buttons for each home device connected to the home network. A user can access other the windows from a main window, such as 710. The buttons are GIF files that are retrieved from the respective home devices (col.13, lines 16-27, and 39-67, col.14, lines 65-col.16, line 20, fig. 8, and 10-11)--
compile a plurality of containers from audio visual control descriptor data; east a portion of said data is accessible via multiple memory addresses, and at least one of said plurality of container comprises information for independent access to each container in said plurality of containers.

Furthermore, Humpleman discloses obtaining a property file information and respective URL of the device to convert a button to a hypertext link to the individual device (col.13, lines

21-67, fig. 12-17). In other words, the information retrieved from the properties file is inserted into the button to customize the button to point to the appropriate device. The buttons are now part of a HTML hierarchy, where the device file of webpage is linked to the various webpages of the home devices. The webpage is retrieved from memory and displayed with the buttons included within it—*wherein at least a portion of said data is accessible via multiple memory addresses*. Accessing a home device button will only retrieve and display the respective home device's webpage-- *register one or more fields of said audio visual control descriptor data within each said container; arrange said containers into a logical hierarchy; present or display the hierarchy to a device requesting data; wherein said device requesting data can access individual ones of said plurality of containers thereby accessing portions of said audio visual control descriptor data without having to access all of said audio visual control descriptor data*.

Regarding claim 2, which depends on claim 1, Humpleman discloses converting a button to a hypertext link to the individual device. Each device button contains the device name within it (col.13, lines 21-57, fig. 5A)-- *associating addresses with each of said fields sequentially enumerated within each of said containers*.

Regarding claim 3, which depends on claim 2, Humpleman discloses converting a button to a hypertext link to the individual device. Accessing a home device button will retrieve and display the respective home device's webpage (col.13, lines 21-57, fig. 5A)-- *mapping said fields to a prescribed field list*.

Regarding claim 4, which depends on claim 3, Humpleman discloses converting a button to a hypertext link to the individual device. Accessing a home device button will retrieve and display the respective home device's webpage (col.13, lines 21-57, fig. 5A)-- *accessing any field within any container independently of any other container, and reading data from any field within any container without affecting the access to any other container.*

Regarding claim 5, which depends on claim 4, Humpleman discloses an auto-tree builder using a device list file to create a device HTML file that contains buttons for each home device connected to the home network. The buttons are GIF files that are retrieved from the respective home devices (col.13, lines 16-27, and 39-67, fig. 4, and 6)-- *said plurality of containers comprise in combination an audio visual control general object list descriptor.*

Regarding claim 14, which depends on claim 1, Humpleman discloses converting a button to a hypertext link to the individual device. Accessing a home device button will retrieve and display the respective home device's webpage (col.13, lines 21-57, fig. 5A)-- *at least one of said plurality of containers comprises a direct representation of a data field in an audio visual control descriptor.*

Regarding claim 15, which depends on claim 14, Humpleman discloses converting a button to a hypertext link to the individual device. Accessing a home device button will retrieve and display the respective home device's webpage (col.13, lines 21-57, fig. 5A). The button is directly associated with the home device control link-- *-- wherein at least one of said plurality*

of containers comprises an alternate representation of a second audio visual control descriptor field.

Regarding claim 16, which depends on claim 15, Humpleman discloses converting a button to a hypertext link to the individual device. Accessing a home device button will retrieve and display the respective home device's control webpage (col.13, lines 21-57, fig. 5A)-- *at least one of said plurality of containers comprises information on how to produce a third audio visual control descriptor field.*

Regarding independent claim 26, Humpleman discloses an auto-tree builder using a device list file to create a device HTML file that contains buttons for each home device connected to the home network. The buttons are GIF files that are retrieved from the respective home devices. A link contained in the button is used to retrieve the top page of the respective device when the user selects the button (col.13, lines 16-27, and 39-67, fig. 4, and 6)-- *compile a plurality of containers containing media control descriptor data wherein at least a portion of said media control descriptor data is adapted to be accessed when its parent is accessed.*

Further, Humpleman discloses obtaining a property file information and respective URL of the device to convert a button to a hypertext link to the individual device (col.13, lines 21-67, fig. 12-17). In other words, the information retrieved from the properties file is inserted into the button to customize the button to point to the appropriate device. The buttons are now part of a HTML hierarchy, where the device file of webpage is linked to the various webpages of the home devices. The webpage is displayed with the buttons included within it. Accessing a home

device button will only retrieve and display the respective home device's webpage *arrange said containers into a logical hierarchy; present or display the hierarchy to a device requesting data*

Furthermore, Humpleman discloses to enable an user to initiate a service, an auto-tree builder uses a device list file to create a device HTML files that contain buttons, with static hyperlinks, such as a power button, for a home device connected to the home network. Some buttons are represented by a description of the device, and/or GIF files that could alternatively be retrieved from the respective home devices (col.13, lines 16-27, and 39-67, col.15, line 32- col.16, line22, fig. 4, 6 and 10-12)-- *wherein said plurality of containers each comprise one or more data fields of an audio visual control descriptor data, wherein a first data field in a first one of said plurality of containers comprises a static data field and a second data field in a second one of said plurality of containers comprises a dynamic data field, wherein said dynamic data field is constructed in response to a request from the device requesting data.*

Regarding claim 27, which depends on claim 26, Humpleman discloses to enable an user to initiate a service, an auto-tree builder uses a device list file to create a device HTML file that contains buttons, with static hyperlinks, for each home device connected to the home network. The buttons are represented by a description of the device, and/or GIF files that could alternatively be retrieved from the respective home devices (col.13, lines 16-27, and 39-67, fig. 4, and 6)-- *wherein at least one of said plurality of containers comprises an alternate representation of a second audio visual control descriptor field.*

Regarding claim 29, which depends on claim 26, Humpleman discloses grouping the buttons in accordance to the location of the devices. The communication, and retrieval from the home devices is performed in accordance to the 1394 communications protocol (col.13, lines 57-67, col.4, lines 20-67, fig. 7). In other words, the retrieved icon data is identified. The sorting parameters are indicated. Then the icon data is read and reorganized and copied into memory where it is retrieved to be displayed to the user-- *identify a top level data container containing AV/C descriptor data. initialize compilation attributes; read the container data; and copy said read container data into a readable storage area.*

Regarding claim 30, which depends on claim 26, Humpleman discloses converting a button to a hypertext link to the individual device. Accessing a home device button will retrieve and display the respective home device's webpage (col.13, lines 21-57, fig. 5A)—*access any field within any container independently without affecting the access of any other container; and write data to any dynamic data field without affecting the access to any other container.*

Regarding claim 42, which depends on claim 41, Humpleman discloses converting a button to a hypertext link to the individual device. Accessing a home device button will retrieve and display the respective home device's webpage (col.13, lines 21-57, fig. 5A)-- *access said static data field in said first container without affecting the access to said dynamic data field in said second container.*

Claims 43-44 are directed towards a computer readable medium like the one found in claims 2-3 respectively, and therefore are similarly rejected.

Regarding independent claim 41, Humpleman discloses obtaining a property file information and respective URL of the device to convert a button to a hypertext link to the individual device. The user can rearrange the buttons or device data in accordance to a predetermined criteria, such as location (col.13, lines 21-col.14, line 17, fig. 12-17). In other words, the information retrieved from the properties file is inserted into the button-- *create a plurality of containers, each container comprising at least a portion of a data stream--to* customize the button to point to the appropriate device. The buttons are now part of a HTML hierarchy, where the device file of webpage is linked to the various webpages of the home devices. The webpage is retrieved from memory and displayed with the buttons included within it--*wherein at least a portion of said data is accessible via multiple memory addresses.* Accessing a home device button will only retrieve and display the respective home device's webpage-- *wherein a segment of the data stream is adapted to be accessed if its parent is accessed; arrange the containers into a logical hierarchy; receive a data request for data comprised within the data stream; and service the data request by accessing one or more of said containers, and wherein at least one of said plurality of data fields is writable by the device requesting data .*

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

11. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

12. Claims 17, 28 and 47 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Humpleman.

Regarding claim 17, which depends on claim 1, Humpleman discloses grouping the buttons in accordance to the location of the devices. The communication, and retrieval from the home devices is performed in accordance to the 1394 communications protocol (col.13, lines 57-67, col.4, lines 20-67, fig. 7). Humpleman fails to explicitly teach *recompiles said plurality of containers containing audio visual control descriptor data into a format compliant with revision 3.0 of the AV/C Digital Interface Command Set General specification*. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use data compliant with the specification, because of all the reasons found in Humpleman, including being able to command and control a device without having to know any specific details about the particular device (col.6, lines 58-67). This would have enabled a user to access effectively the command and control data appropriating any communications protocol.

Regarding claim 28, which depends on claim 26, Humpleman discloses grouping the buttons in accordance to the location of the devices. The communication, and retrieval from the

home devices is performed in accordance to the 1394 communications protocol (col.13, lines 57-67, col.4, lines 20-67, fig. 7)-- Humpleman fails to explicitly teach *at least one instruction which when executed recompiles said plurality of containers containing audio visual control descriptor data into a format compliant with revision 3.0 of the AV/C Digital Interface Command Set General specification*. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use data compliant with the specification, because of all the reasons found in Humpleman, including being able to command and control a device without having to know any specific details about the particular device (col.6, lines 58-67). This would have enabled a user to access effectively the command and control data appropriating any communications protocol.

13. Claims 31-36, and 52 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Humpleman, in view of Humpleman et al, hereinafter Humpleman2 (Pat.# 6,546,419 B1, 4/8/2003, provisional filed on 5/7/1998, disclosed on pto-892 on 11/14/2007).

Regarding independent claim 31, Humpleman discloses an auto-tree builder using a device list file to create a device HTML file that contains buttons for each home device connected to the home network. The buttons are GIF files that are retrieved from the respective home devices (col.13, lines 16-27, and 39-67, fig. 4, and 6)-- *compile a plurality of containers from a contiguous audio visual control descriptor data stream*.

Furthermore, Humpleman discloses obtaining a property file information and respective URL of the device to convert a button to a hypertext link to the individual device (col.13, lines 21-67, fig. 12-17). In other words, the information retrieved from the properties file is inserted

Art Unit: 2178

into the button to customize the button to point to the appropriate device. The buttons are now part of a HTML hierarchy, where the device file of webpage is linked to the various webpages of the home devices. The webpage is displayed with the buttons included within it. Accessing a home device button will only retrieve and display the respective home device's webpage--
register one or more fields of said audio visual control descriptor data stream within each said container; arrange said containers into a logical hierarchy; wherein individual ones of said plurality of containers associated with said audio visual control descriptor data stream are accessible by a device without affecting access to any other container, thereby allowing said plurality of containers to be substantially independent from another. Humpleman fails to explicitly teach *said contiguous audio visual control descriptor comprising a length field indicating a length of said contiguous audio visual control descriptor.* However, Humpleman2, teaches a table of attributes, such as character lengths used for retrieving attribute data for a device, such as VCR, DVD, etc., (col.9, lines 52-col.10, line63, fig.11). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Humpleman, and Humpleman2, because of all the reasons found in Humpleman2, including facilitating interoperability among devices.

Claims 32-35 are directed towards a computer readable medium like the one found in claims 2-5 respectively, and therefore are similarly rejected.

Regarding independent claim 52, Humpleman discloses an auto-tree builder using a device list file to create a device HTML file with several windows that contain buttons for each home device connected to the home network. A user can access other the windows from a main

window, such as 710, which contains rows listing the device windows to be displayed. The buttons are GIF files that are retrieved from the respective home devices (col.13, lines 16-27, and 39-67, col.14, lines 65-col.16, line 20, fig. 8, and 10-11)—*compile a plurality of containers from audio visual control data; and at least one of said plurality of container comprises a container comprising a number of containers in said plurality of containers.*

Furthermore, Humpleman discloses obtaining a property file information and respective URL of the device to convert a button to a hypertext link to the individual device (col.13, lines 21-67, fig. 12-17). In other words, the information retrieved from the properties file is inserted into the button to customize the button to point to the appropriate device. The buttons are now part of a HTML hierarchy, where the device file of webpage is linked to the various webpages of the home devices. The webpage is retrieved from memory and displayed with the buttons included within it—*wherein at least a portion of said data is accessible via multiple memory addresses.* Accessing a home device button will only retrieve and display the respective home device's webpage-- *register one or more fields of said audio visual control data within each said container; arrange said containers into a hierarchy; present the hierarchy to a device requesting data; wherein said device requesting data can access individual ones of said plurality of containers.* Humpleman fails to explicitly teach *a container comprising a size field.* However, Humpleman2, teaches a table of attributes, such as character lengths used for retrieving attribute data for a device, such as VCR, DVD, etc., (col.9, lines 52-col.10, line63, fig.11). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Humpleman, and Humpleman2, because of all the reasons found in Humpleman2, including facilitating interoperability among devices.

14. Claim 36 remains rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Humpleman, in view of Looney et al, hereinafter Looney (Pat.# 6,232,539 B1, 5/15/2001, continuation filed on 6/17/1998).

Regarding claim 36, which depends on claim 31, Humpleman discloses displaying and allowing a user to select controls for various devices (col.17, lines 36-67, col.18, lines 33-67, fig.10-13). Humpleman fails to explicitly disclose *establishing a read buffer in a memory space and setting the read buffer offset to zero; establishing a received address request as a starting address, establishing a received read length request as a length sought*. Looney discloses the queuing of a song to be played and setting a timer to 0. The user can then indicate the length of play time of a song selected to be played (col.2, lines 30-67, col.9, lines 33-47, col. 14, lines 37-50, col.10, lines 30-67, fig. 27). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to access the properties file without having to combine Humpleman, and Looney, because of all the reasons found in Looney including taking advantage of the latest advances in music storage, and data processing capabilities (col.1, lines 52-60).

Allowable Subject Matter

15. Claims 46-51 are allowed.

Response to Arguments

16. Applicant's arguments filed on 8/15/2008 have been fully considered but they moot. Regarding claims 1-15, and 11-16, the Applicants indicate that Humpleman fails to teach or disclose the newly added limitation (page 10). The Examiner disagrees, because Humpleman discloses an auto-tree builder using a device list file to create a device HTML file with several windows that contain buttons for each home device connected to the home network. A user can access other the windows from a main window, such as 710. The buttons are GIF files that are retrieved from the respective home devices (col.13, lines 16-27, and 39-67, col.14, lines 65-col.16, line 20, fig. 8, and 10-11)-- *compile a plurality of containers from audio visual control descriptor data; east a portion of said data is accessible via multiple memory addresses, and at least one of said plurality of container comprises information for independent access to each container in said plurality of containers.*

Regarding claims 26-30, the Applicant indicates that the gifs taught by Humpleman cannot be considered to be dynamic data fields (page 10,parag.5-6). The Examiner disagrees, because Humpleman discloses to enable an user to initiate a service, an auto-tree builder uses a device list file to create a device HTML files that contain buttons, with static hyperlinks, such as a power button, for a home device connected to the home network. Some buttons are represented by a description of the device, and/or GIF files that could alternatively be retrieved from the respective home devices (col.13, lines 16-27, and 39-67, col.15, line 32-col.16, line22, fig. 4, and 6).

Regarding claims 31-36, the Applicant indicates that Humpleman fails to teach a length of a control descriptor (page 10) . The Applicant is directed towards the rejection of this limitation above in light of the newly amended claims.

Regarding the rest of the claims, the Applicant is directed towards the rejection, objection, and/or allowance of these claims above as necessitated by the amendment.

Conclusion

17. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

I. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cesar B. Paula whose telephone number is (571) 272-4128. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (EST).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stephen Hong, can be reached on (571) 272-4124. However, in such a case, please allow at least one business day.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, go to <http://portal.uspto.gov/external/portal/pair>. Should you have any questions about access to the Private PAIR system, please contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866 217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, please call 800-786-9199 or 571 272-1000 (USA or Canada).

Any response to this Action should be mailed to:
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Or faxed to:

- (571)-273-8300 (for all Formal communications intended for entry)

/CESAR B PAULA/ Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2178

11/21/2008

